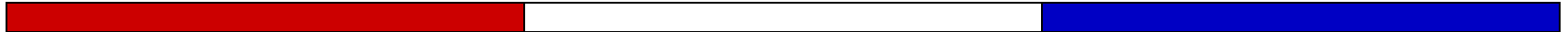




Annual 2008 VA/DoD Joint Venture Conference
David Grant Medical Center
VA Northern California Health Care System



Lt Col Doreen Wilder
David Grant Medical Center

KC Carlson and Sandy Robison
VA Northern California Health Care System



Agenda



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- Brief overview of sharing relationship
 - Staff Integration
 - Other Best Practices
 - Lessons Learned
 - Contact Information

Brief Overview of Sharing Relationship



- Sharing agreement between 60 MDG and VANCHCS established in 1994
- Veterans utilize DGMC for ER, inpatient care, radiation therapy, neurosurgery, and specified diagnostic services
- VA Fairfield Clinic (adjacent to DGMC) includes joint neurosurgery clinic and DoD contract chiropractic clinic
- Agreement incorporates Pre-Sep Program, a consolidated DoD Pre-Separation and VA Comprehensive and Pension physical (25-50 per month)
- 60 MDG Satellite Clinic located at VA's north Sacramento site
 - 6 PCMs for 60 MDG enrollees located at Sacramento site
 - Includes active duty Coast Guard and dependents
 - VA provides lab, x-ray, pharmacy services to DoD beneficiaries
 - 60 MDG pays VANCHCS for this service; therefore, no patient copay required (acts a TRICARE provider)



Best Practice: Staff Integration



“The staff is seamless. We have a completely integrated staff, working and growing together.”





Best Practice: Staff Integration Hiring



- Advertising
- Application review process
- Interview processes
- Recognize expertise
- Emphasize integration from the start
- Electronic vs. paper records





Best Practice: Staff Integration Education/Staff Development



- Requirement comparisons—one folder
 - Contains both agencies' requirements
- Orientation to VA and to DGMC
- Consider variations of accepted standards



“They (VA nurses) are highly motivated and are important assets to our unit. I was fortunate enough to be oriented to the unit by Sally.”

Maj. Lowry, Nurse Manager



Best Practice: Staff Integration D/C Planning & Case Mgmt.

- Joint morning rounds
 - Promotes collaboration
 - Improves communication
- VA nurses help to facilitate D/C planning



"It's Friday - Don't Expect Miracles"

Capt Lydon, DGMC, UM Nurse



Best Practice: Staff Integration Leadership



- Role of the VA Nurse Manager
- VA nurses in supervisory positions
- Maintenance of VA identity
- Performance discussions



“Maria was right to be concerned. I actually find her concern reassuring because it tells me that she is thinking the problem through and is asking the right questions. She handled it well last night.”

DGMC Critical Care Medical Director



Other Best Practices at the Joint Venture



- Trust and integrity between VA and DoD
- We understand and support each other's mission
- Fisher House and Air Force Inn Support
- Engaged and supportive leadership
- Regular Meetings/Ongoing Communication
 - Monthly Joint Initiatives Working Group
 - Quarterly Executive Management Team meetings
 - Reversible Reimbursement Methodology...Keep it simple
 - User Review of MSA
- Always looking for ways to strengthen each other
 - Annual strategic planning off sites are critical
- We look for the right solution for both parties



Lessons Learned



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- Address issues early on
 - Keep the personalities “in-check”
 - Patient-centered focus